

What is claimed is:

1. A preformed flexible sleeve, comprising:

a first panel, a second panel, a first side and a second side, the flexible sleeve having an upper end having an opening, and the flexible sleeve tapered from the upper end to a closed lower end, and the first side and the second side having an angle therebetween from about 14° to about 40° or tapered from the upper end to a truncated closed lower end and having an imaginary angle from about 14° to about 40°; and

an adhesive or cohesive bonding material disposed upon at least one of an inner peripheral surface of the first panel and an inner peripheral surface of the second panel.

2. The preformed flexible sleeve of claim 1 wherein the angle is from about 16° to about 30°.

3. The preformed flexible sleeve of claim 1 wherein the angle is from about 16° to about 24°.

4. The preformed flexible sleeve of claim 1 wherein the closed lower end is provided with a conical tip.

5. The preformed flexible sleeve of claim 1 wherein the upper end has a non-linear edge.

6. The preformed flexible sleeve of claim 1 further defined as sized to contain a pot.

7. The preformed flexible sleeve of claim 5 wherein the non-linear edge of the upper end is positioned such that when a pot is disposed within the preformed flexible sleeve, the non-linear edge of the upper end of the sleeve is at least partially positioned near an upper rim of the pot.

8. The preformed flexible sleeve of claim 1 further defined as initially comprising a flattened condition.

9. The preformed flexible sleeve of claim 1 wherein the adhesive or cohesive bonding material is positioned on the sleeve in a location to enable the sleeve to be connected via the adhesive or cohesive bonding material to an outer surface of a pot disposed therein.

10. The preformed flexible sleeve of claim 1 further comprising a first side gusset in the first side and a second side gusset in the second side.

11. The preformed flexible sleeve of claim 1 further comprising a detachable upper portion detachable via perforations.

12. The preformed flexible sleeve of claim 11 wherein the detachable upper portion is sized to substantially surround and encompass a floral grouping.

13. The preformed flexible sleeve of claim 11 wherein the detachable upper portion has an upper end which has an adhesive or cohesive bonding material thereon for sealing an upper end of the detachable upper portion.

14. The preformed flexible sleeve of claim 1 further defined as constructed from a material selected from the group consisting of treated or untreated paper, metal foil, polymer film, non-polymer film, cardboard, fiber, cloth, burlap, and laminations or combinations thereof.

15. The preformed flexible sleeve of claim 1 further defined as constructed from a material having a thickness in a range of from about 0.1 mil to about 30 mils.

16. A method of covering a pot having an outer peripheral surface, a bottom and an upper rim, comprising the steps of:

providing a preformed flexible sleeve comprising a closed lower end and an adhesive or cohesive bonding material disposed upon an inner peripheral surface of the preformed flexible sleeve, said preformed flexible sleeve sized to cover the pot and the preformed flexible sleeve having a non-linear upper edge; and

disposing the pot within the preformed flexible sleeve, wherein a portion of the inner peripheral surface of the preformed flexible sleeve having the bonding material disposed thereon is positioned adjacent the pot, and bondingly connecting said portion of the inner peripheral surface of the preformed flexible sleeve to the outer peripheral surface of the pot via the adhesive or cohesive bonding material on the preformed

flexible sleeve wherein the preformed flexible sleeve surrounds and encompasses the outer peripheral surface of the pot; and wherein said portion of the inner peripheral surface of the preformed flexible sleeve is positioned about the pot and connected thereto such that the preformed flexible sleeve is secured about the pot.

17. The method of claim 16 wherein the preformed flexible sleeve is initially formed in a flattened condition.

18. The method of claim 16 wherein at least a portion of the upper non-linear edge of the preformed flexible sleeve is positioned near the upper rim of the pot.

19. The method of claim 16 wherein the preformed flexible sleeve is further defined as comprising a first panel, a second panel, a first side and a second side and having an angle between the first side and the second side of from about 14° to about 40°.

20. The method of claim 16 comprising the additional step of folding a portion of the closed lower end of the preformed flexible sleeve beneath the bottom of the pot after the pot is disposed within the preformed flexible sleeve.

21. The method of claim 16 wherein the preformed flexible sleeve further comprises a detachable upper portion detachable via perforations.

22. The method of claim 21 wherein the detachable upper portion is sized to substantially surround and encompass a floral grouping disposed within the pot.

23. The method of claim 21 wherein the detachable upper portion further comprises an adhesive or cohesive bonding material disposed thereon for sealing an upper end of the detachable upper portion.

24. A method of covering a pot having an outer peripheral surface, a bottom and an upper rim, comprising the steps of:

providing a preformed flexible sleeve comprising a closed lower end, a first panel, a second panel, a first side and a second side and having an angle between the first side and the second side of from about 14° to about 40° or tapered from the upper end to a truncated closed lower end and having an imaginary angle from about 14° to about 40°, said preformed flexible sleeve sized to cover the pot and the preformed flexible sleeve having a non-linear upper edge; and

disposing the pot within the preformed flexible sleeve, wherein a portion of the inner peripheral surface of the preformed flexible sleeve is positioned adjacent the pot;

securing the preformed flexible sleeve to the outer peripheral surface of the pot via a banding element such that the preformed flexible sleeve

15 surrounds and encompasses the outer peripheral surface of the pot;  
and  
wherein said portion of the inner peripheral surface of the preformed flexible  
sleeve is positioned about the pot such that the preformed flexible  
sleeve is secured about the pot.

25. The method of claim 24 wherein the preformed flexible sleeve is initially formed  
in a flattened condition.

26. The method of claim 24 wherein at least a portion of the upper non-linear edge  
of the preformed flexible sleeve is positioned near the upper rim of the pot.

27. The method of claim 24 comprising the additional step of folding a portion of  
the closed lower end of the preformed flexible sleeve beneath the bottom of the pot after  
the pot is disposed within the preformed flexible sleeve.

28. The method of claim 24 wherein the preformed flexible sleeve further comprises  
a detachable upper portion detachable via perforations.

29. The method of claim 28 wherein the detachable upper portion is sized to substantially surround and encompass a floral grouping disposed within the pot.

30. The method of claim 28 wherein the detachable upper portion further comprises an adhesive or cohesive bonding material disposed thereon for sealing an upper end of the detachable upper portion.